

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0009] as follows:

By comparison, a method for the autonomic management of autonomic systems can include monitoring a managed system and recommending a course of action to be performed in the managed system. It can be determined whether the recommended course of action has been performed by an administrator. Responsive to the determination, it further can be determined whether an outcome from the course of action comports with a predicted outcome. If so, a point count can be changed responsive to a further determination that the outcome from the course of action comports with the predicted outcome. Conversely, the point count can be oppositely changed responsive to a further determination that the outcome from the course of action does not comport with the predicted outcome. In any case, when the point count crosses a threshold value, the management of the managed system can be transitioned to an adaptive component. Similarly, when the point count re-crosses the threshold value in a direction opposite a direction which gave rise to the transitioning step, management of the managed system can be returned to a predictive component. ~~Hysteresis~~ Hysteresis can be applied to eliminate overly frequent transitions.

Please amend paragraph [0024] as follows:

In decision block 380, if the decremented point count falls below the predetermined threshold, in block 385 the system can transition back to the predictive management process, the requisite level of trustworthiness of the predictive capabilities of the autonomic system having not satisfied the requirements of the administrator. In this case, the administrator can be notified

of the impending transition. Otherwise, the method can return through block 350. Importantly, as a ~~hysteresis~~ hysteresis condition can arise from point values proximate to the threshold, a smoothing function can be applied to point values proximate to the threshold. As an example, a trend which exceeds or falls below the threshold can be required before undertaking a transition. Additionally, certain actions can be forbidden to give rise to a transition, and other actions can be enumerated and excluded from the autonomic management, always remaining under explicit administrator control